SELF-EDIT OF LEAD SENTENCES

\*What are the most important points that you make in your thesis statement?

1.

2.

\* What might be the theme of your essay? What lessons are you addressing?

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For your lead, focus on the theme of your essay. Your lead can be

* question,
* quote (a saying or bit of advice)
* definition,
* example,
* or a statement of fact.

**LEADS to AVOID**

This is an essay about parenting (NOT INTERESTING OR THEME BASED)

My mother is a boss, but my father is a perfect parent (AVOID A PERSONAL STORY AND THE USE OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS)

Parenting is hard (WAY TOO BROAD AND OBVIOUS)

The definition of a parent is someone who has a child (BORING AND NOT THEMATIC)

There are lots of things that make a good parent (VAGUE).

**LEADS TO TRY:**

* **QUESTION:** A theme based question that relates to your claims

**Samples:**

Is it better for parents to control their children’s development or allow them to grow up independently?

Should parents want their children to be clones of themselves?

**Create your own**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**AND**

**2.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* **QUOTE:** Choose a famous quote that deals with parenting advice. It can be a quote that you know or one from the shared texts.

**Samples:**

“The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.”

“He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind.”

**Create your own:**

3. (GENERAL QUOTE) “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ”

4. (SHARED TEXT QUOTE) “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ”

* **DEFINITION:** Define a term that relates to the topic of parenting that connects to your theme.

**Samples:**

Overzealous means to take one’s passions and beliefs too seriously, so that a person loses perspective on others.

A helicopter parent is a parent who is overly involved in his or her children’s lives and gives them too little independence.

**Create your own:**

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* **OPINIONATED STATEMENT OF FACT**: Include a factual truth about parenting that shows your opinion.

**Samples:**

It is harder to be a parent than a child because the parent’s choices impact the child’s lives forever.

A person requires a license to drive a car, own a gun, or fly a plane, but there is no license required to become a parent and there should be.

Create your own:

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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PEER-EDIT OF LEAD SENTENCES

NAME OF EDITOR: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Read carefully over the six leads and give feedback below.

* **EVALUATION.** Go through the leads and rate them from BEST to WORST. Next to the ranking, write a comment about something that you like or don’t like about it.

**BEST LEAD COMMENT**

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**WORST LEAD**

* **EXPLANATION.** Tell the writer TWO REASONS why the top lead is the best:

**Reason number one.**

**Reason number two.**

* **SUGGESTION.** Tell the writer TWO WAYS that he or she could improve the lead. Consider any personal pronouns, vague words (things, stuff) and absolutes (always, never)

**Improvement number one**

**Improvement number two**